

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

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NOTES ON DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JUNCACEAE.

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In the preparation of the manuscript of the *Juncaceae* for the District of Columbia Local Flora, it has been found necessary to raise a variety of *Juncus canadensis* to specific rank, and to employ new trinomials for two plants which appear to be variants of *Juncoides campestre*. The reasons for these changes are discussed below.

***Juncus subcaudatus* (Engelm.).**

*Juncus canadensis* var. *subcaudatus* Engelm. Trans. St. Louis Acad. Sci. 2 : 474. 1868.

The distinctive characters of this form, both in habit and in seed, have been recognized so long that it is surprising that the plant has not previously been granted the specific recognition it undoubtedly deserves. *J. subcaudatus* differs from *J. canadensis* J. Gay in its more slender, often lax or decumbent habit; in its looser inflorescence, with fewer-flowered usually much less numerous heads on loosely spreading or sometimes erect branches; and particularly in its very different seeds. In *J. canadensis* the seeds are 1.3 to 1.5 mm. long, including the loose shining whitish testa, which is provided with about 30 to 40 weak longitudinal ribs only very obscurely, if at all, reticulate, and is prolonged at each end into appendages or "tails" which are two-thirds or quite as long as the body of the seed. In *J. subcaudatus* the seed, including the testa, is 0.7 to 0.9 mm. long, and the testa, produced at the ends into appendages only one-third as long as the seed body or less, tightly encloses the distinctly plumper seed and is provided with about 20 to 25 strong longitudinal ribs connected by distinct crossbars so that its surface appears areolate.

In its seed characters *J. subcaudatus* makes some approach to *J. brevicaudatus* (Engelm.) Fernald. The latter, however, has a strict contracted inflorescence of few-flowered heads, and the capsule conspicuously exceeds the perianth.

Material of *J. subcaudatus* is in the National Herbarium from Pennsyl-

vania to North Carolina. It has been reported from Rhode Island to Georgia.

***Juncoides campestre bulbosum* (Wood).**

*Luzula campestris*  $\beta$ . *bulbosa* Wood, Class Book 723. 1861.

*Juncoides bulbosum* Small, Torreyia **1** : 75. 1901.

This is here taken as defined by Fernald & Wiegand in *Rhodora* (**15** : 40, 42) in 1913. It is apparently the less common form of the District.

***Juncoides campestre echinatum* (Small).**

*Juncoides echinatum* Small, Torreyia **1** : 74. 1901.

*Luzula campestris* var. *echinata* Fernald & Wiegand, *Rhodora* **15** : 40, 42. 1913.

Apparently the commoner form in the District. Distinguished by the usually strongly divergent branches of the inflorescence and by the fact that the perianth-segments conspicuously exceed the capsule.